

Subject: Gardens of Stone | THE BOX | DAFS Weekend
From: 4WD NSW and ACT INC <office@4wdnow.com>
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To: <delegate.tam4wdclub@gmail.com>



Presidents report

Hi everyone, well here we are at the end of another year of crazy and I am certainly not going to say it can only get better.

With the AGM now over, I would just like to thank all of you for the amazing support that you have shown this committee over the years which resulted in the committee continuing with no changes.

With all the changes happening in government, parks and transport it is great to be acknowledged as such a stable Association.

Talking of changes in Parks, it will be interesting to see how it goes over the next six months or so, we should find out who the new Minister will be shortly and with the changes in management and some recent acknowledgment of some of our issues it could be exciting times ahead.

Hopefully not all the club Christmas parties were flooded out in the last couple of weeks and you all managed to get together one way or another, it is so important now that members get together and create some stability in these times.

So, with a lot of people getting away or even just having a break, from myself and all of the Committee we hope you have a great Christmas with lots of new big boy and girl toys for getting out and about.

Looking forward to some of the exciting things planned for next year where we can all catch up,

cheers.

Craig Thomas

Top treasurers awarded for hard work and financial wizardry



The Commonwealth Bank's head of not-for-profit sector banking, Julianne Price, said the awards were richly deserved by individuals who were some of the sector's hardest-working volunteers.

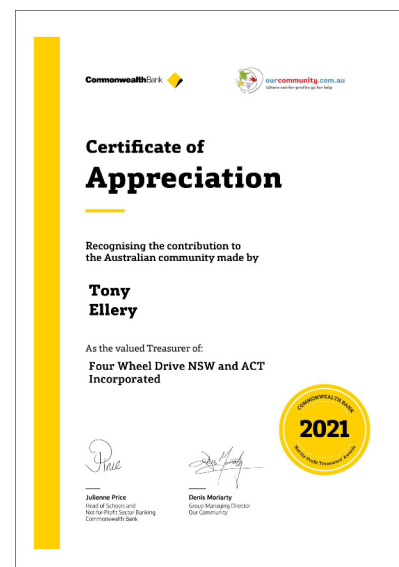
"These awards provide an opportunity for us to say thank you and to show our collective appreciation for the immense contribution community treasurers make to their own groups, the not-for-profit sector as a whole, and Australian society."

The awards also recognise an army of treasurers nominated by their organisations with a certificate of thanks and a listing on an annual honour roll.

"It's wonderful to see more than 1500 treasurers recognised in the 2021 awards, and to be able to publicly recognise the thousands of people who contribute so much of their time and effort to looking after all things financial and to keeping the sector viable and sustainable," Ms Price said.

Our Community group managing director Denis Moriarty said the winners demonstrated proven solutions for groups wanting to cope with covid-19.

"As a treasurer myself, I know the massive commitment that is involved. These financial leaders inspire us all with their passion, dedication, professionalism, and can-do attitude towards their causes. I hope we can all learn from them," he said.



Gardens of Stone Update December

As most of you now know the Newness plateau is to become State Recreation area managed by National Parks. It is envisaged that this area will be managed differently to anything in the past with the focus put onto users of the park.

As the peak body for Four Wheel Driving and camping we have been asked to have our input into the area. The first of these meetings has been held with Parks and the Association with surprising results. They are very open to the idea of retaining as many of the recognised tracks as possible and to this we have identified these tracks that we believe offer different levels of skill requirements.

I would like to thank the ones that have emailed us their thoughts so far, these have been a great help in getting everybody on the same page, it is also very satisfying to see an overwhelming need to make this sustainable with as little impact on the environment as possible. It is obvious that we all love to spend time and enjoy our amazing country.

We also discussed letting registered bikes retain single line tracks, this will help keep them separated from other users and help increase safety. We are of the belief that the more we can keep different groups separated the safer it will be.

We have broken up four wheel drivers into three main groups, families that want camping close to Sydney with some nice easy accessible activities, clubs and larger groups with normal modifications (50mm lift and tyre upgrade) that want to have a reasonably challenging track with nice views and attractions and a more isolated camp site and finally the ones with a engineered four wheel drive looking for a more technical challenge and are mostly day trippers with only the odd one camping overnight.

Looking at the area and how its popularity has increased in the last twenty years and assuming that with even more four wheel drives being sold now than ever before we have to acknowledge that the area is going to get a lot busier. Managing this will be one of the biggest challenges, it will be no fun if you end up in a traffic jam to drive along a track. We are open to a permit system that helps manage the area to help make it sustainable and enjoyable for all users.

Another meeting has been organised for the new year and weather permitting it will be an onsite visit. If you would like to have input into this project you can still email your ideas to lithgowproject@4wdnow.com Remember we are there to represent you and we can only do that if you tell us what you would like to see happen in the area,

cheers.

Craig Thomas.



Daf's weekend Feb 2022

The Driver Training Unit (DTU) is planning a Driver Awareness Facilitators weekend in February next year on the 12th and 13th in the Coffs Harbour area.

Please mark these dates in your diary and more information will come soon.

Sign up [HERE](#)



Please contact Maggie to arrange for pick up of the box for your club.

Your 2022 membership stickers are inside so you will need to get these to your members ASAP.

Contact office@4wdnow.com to make arrangements.

Office hours over Christmas.

Close December 22nd and reopen January 10th.

If you need anything urgently please call Maggie 0438 555 387. I will be in and out over the break and will help you if you need anything.

Sydney Region

Discovery 4WD Club

Hornsby Kuring-Gai 4WD Club

International Scouts Owners Club

Kamikaze Off Road 4x4 Club

Nepean 4WD Club

Northern Region

Coffs Coast Jeepers

Grafton & Districts 4WD Club

Kempsey District 4WD Club

Port Macquarie 4WD Club

Southern Ranges

ACT 4WD Club

ACT All Terrain Club

ACT Jeep Traction

Brindabella Ranges 4wd Club

Land Rover Club of the ACT

Southern Tablelands 4WD Club

Trail Track 4Wd Club

Wagga Wagga 4WD Club

If you are regional club visiting Sydney over Christmas contact me to arrange for pick up.

If you are Sydney based and heading to the Northern or Southern Ranges regions please consider dropping off a box to a club on this list.

It's a great opportunity for a catch up and a chat, or if you are pressed for time you can just drop and dash. Any help would be

On All 4's 4wd Club
Out and About 4WD Club
Under The stars 4Wd Club
Well Sprung 4WD Club

appreciated.

**Everyone on this list needs to
contact me for pick up
arrangements or an address for
delivery**

Our agreement with Club 4x4 has been finalised.

To gain access to quoting at discounted rates please log into the website www.4wdnow.com "members only" section.



You will need your club access information. I don't have the password for your club, your club created it so you must get the info from them. If you don't have it please contact your club committee.

The secure portal is in the "members only" section. Arriving at the Club 4x4 website via this link is how we confirm that you are a member of an affiliated club and eligible for discounts under this agreement.

This section is being finalised now, it will be complete shortly. We will promote this agreement in the new year with giveaways and promotions, but in the mean time if you need a quote you can access the portal.

November 2021 - Volunteering is back in NATIONAL PARKS - VIP

We are very happy to see that many volunteer programs have returned to the field. We appreciate your patience over these past months as part of the concerted effort of the public service to protect the community. Each returning volunteer program will operate under a specific COVID-safe Job Safety Analysis (JSA) approved by the local Area Manager. Your volunteer supervisor will post the JSA on VIP, email it to you and/or talk through it onsite, to ensure we all understand our responsibilities to keep our workplaces and colleagues safe.

Vaccination update

On 24 November, DPIE released a draft Vaccination Policy which applies to all staff, contractors and volunteers. It is open for comment for the next two weeks. The Policy proposes:

- Double vaccination will become a condition of employment at DPIE.
Employees would be required to have received two doses of the COVID-19

vaccination by 10 January 2022.

- All contingent workers, volunteers, and contractors who enter a DPIE workplace would also be required to be double vaccinated by 10 January 2022.
- Exemptions would be made for people who have medical contraindications or approved cases of exceptional personal circumstances.

In the meantime, we will continue to follow the government's [current COVID-19 rules](#). As of today:

- Unvaccinated visitors, volunteers and staff cannot enter Visitor Centres
- Unvaccinated volunteers and staff should not work indoors if their work can be done at home. If they do have to work in an office, they must wear a mask at all times.
- Note that volunteers fall under "co-workers" not general public when reading public health orders.

Vaccination in the workplace continues to be a sensitive topic on which there is a diverse range of views, preferences, and concerns. All staff and volunteers will be treated with respect as we collectively work to safely deliver services to the community. If you have any questions, please contact the [Volunteer Team](#).

Volunteer Opportunities

Scotch Broom working bees at Barrington Tops are back

Make a difference in the Barrington Tops. The environmental weed Scotch Broom is widely distributed throughout subalpine communities, especially post-fire. Our working bees include a combination of cutting unburnt mature broom plants and emerging seedlings and conducting biodiversity monitoring of the Barrington Tops NP. Free camping is included for all participants. A medium level of fitness is required. Click on the date below to download the brochure and register. **NOTE:** The issue of late notice has been brought up with Parks. They assumed that if you are interested you are already registered. We have pointed out to them that new projects get people interested for the first time so we are hoping that they will give more notice to us so we can update you guys sooner.

- [December 9/10 - Polbue Campground, 2WD access](#)
- [December 11/12 - Polbue Campground, 2WD access](#)



Regional advisory committee members

A regional advisory committee consists of at least 12 members, but not more than 17 members.

Committees include at least two Aboriginal people, a person jointly nominated by the Nature Conservation Council of NSW and the National Parks Association of NSW, and other people who, in the opinion of the Minister, have qualifications, experience and expertise in one or more of the following:

- local government
- community involvement in conservation
- Aboriginal cultural heritage
- scientific qualifications (conservation biology, wildlife management or related disciplines)
- rural or regional issues
- agriculture and rural issues (being a person nominated by NSW Farmers)
- ecotourism or ecologically sustainable visitor or tourist use, enjoyment and appreciation of reserves
- environmental education
- non-Aboriginal cultural heritage conservation.

The regional areas are:

- Blue Mountains
- Greater Sydney
- Hunter Central Coast
- North Coast
- Northern Inland
- South Coast

- Southern Ranges
- West

Appointed by the Minister for Energy and Environment, under Section 24 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, regional advisory committees provide valuable advice to the Minister.

Why join a regional advisory committee?

[Watch a video](#) to find out why you should join a regional advisory committee.

When regional advisory committee members were asked about the value of being on a regional advisory committee, they volunteered a broad range of comments, including benefits such as:

- the satisfaction of having an effective input into plans of management for local national parks, fire management plans and other planning strategies
- field excursions to view planning issues with NPWS staff
- being involved in the planning process from the very start, with the pre-draft stages of planning, all the way through community consultation to the completion of the plan
- being part of a group that liaised with the local community over a difficult issue, gaining an understanding of the issues involved and developing a solution
- seeing changes to the National Parks and Wildlife Act, which recognised the strategic planning ability of regional advisory committees
- gaining an increased understanding of NPWS planning processes, getting to know staff and becoming familiar with local national parks
- consulting with Aboriginal people about cultural heritage conservation
- gaining an appreciation of how NPWS staff have coped with drought, pests, and fire, often working with park neighbours to tackle problems.

Community members are highly valued for their independent advice on policies and plans, activities and proposed activities, draft plans of management, and their community advocacy roles in helping to achieve the objectives of the Act. There are 8 regional advisory committees across New South Wales, with members appointed in a voluntary capacity. **The terms of current members end on 30 August 2021.**

If you would like to volunteer for one of these committees please contact Maggie in the office for more information office@4wdnow.com

Need a ZOOM meeting?

Do you need a zoom meeting for your club?
You are welcome to use the Association account.
Please email Maggie with date, start time and duration.
office@4wdnow.com

Invitation to provide comment

National Parks and Wildlife Service Cycling Strategy and Cycling policy, on exhibition till Sunday 30th January 2022.

The New South Wales (NSW) National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) has developed a suite of new cycling documents. The draft Cycling Strategy, Guidelines for Implementation and revised Cycling Policy will replace the current Sustainable Mountain Biking Strategy (2011) and Cycling Policy. These documents have been developed in response to the increased demand for cycling in National Parks, in particular mountain biking, the desire for new experiences and changes in cycling equipment over the last 10 years.

NPWS recognise cycling within our parks as a legitimate recreational activity and already offer, single track experiences, tracks with technical features, shared use management trails and key destination rides such as Thredbo Valley Track in Kosciuszko National Park. We also recognise and look to improve the management of key challenges, such as unauthorised tracks and associated impacts on park values. Improving visitor understanding of cultural and environmental values whilst on park is fundamental to the delivery of recreational experiences within NPWS protected areas.

The draft Cycling Strategy does not stipulate the location of tracks within local parks. What it does do is provide a statewide framework to assess opportunities and constraints on park that includes stakeholder and community engagement and coordinated planning and management. It will also be able to guide individual park plans of management.

[The suite of draft cycling documents are now on public exhibition for 10 weeks from Saturday 20 November 2021 – Sunday 30 January 2022.](#)

You can see all the documents for the Strategy, Guidelines for implementation and revised Policy through www.environment.nsw.gov.au/cycling-strategy-and-cycling-policy.

Yours sincerely

BARRY HAYDEN

Acting Manager – Planning and Assessment Unit
National Parks and Wildlife Service



This newsletter is written using information provided by relevant parties.

If I write something that mentions "me or I" and there is no signature after it then it is a message from me.

If you would like something to be added on behalf of your club please email office@4wdnow.com.

Anything can be included as long as it's club based and for the benefit of clubs.

The newsletter is monthly (about the first of each month) but we can do an extra "special" if there is something that is important that we missed.

- Maggie Thomas.

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